NO. 51

PEP COMICS

DEC. 10¢

Archie

Starring ARCHIE ANDREWS!

SHIELD G-MAN CLUB

BULLETIN NO. 29

HIYA, GANG:

Here's a real sockeroo of an idea that was submitted by one of you Shield G Man members, and Dusty and I like it so much that we're going to put it into operation right now. We're going to give all you members of the Shield G Man Club a chance to show what kind of detectives you are, and reward you for your brains at the same time. But win or lose, you'll all have a lot of fun with this game. Here is a tricky little mystery that Dusty and I had to solve. We did. Can you?

Dusty and I walked into Tom Jenks' apartment. Jenks was stretched out on the floor. Dead. A bullet hole, round and clean in his right temple. Not a mark on his placid face that looked as though it were in a peaceful sleep. There was a note on his desk, typed out. It was a suicide note. In Jenks' lapel pocket, there was a fountain pen. And on his right wrist, a wrist watch, smashed. The homicide squad, headed by Captain Timmons, was already gathered there. "Well, Shield, what do you make of it?" Dusty and I looked at each other knowingly. It was plain that we both agreed as to what had happened. I spoke for both of us.

"Captain! Jenks did not commit suicide. *He was murdered!*"

Now, you Junior G Man detectives, can you see what Dusty and I saw? How did we know it was murder almost as soon as we looked at the corpse? Pick out the right solution from among the following:

1) Jenks wouldn't have typed out the note if he had a fountain pen in his pocket.

2) The wrist watch on his right hand showed that he was left handed, and he therefore would have used his *left hand* to shoot himself in the *left temple.*

3) The fact that his face was calm and unmarked shows that he was taken by surprise and never knew what happened!

4) If he had killed himself, there would have been powder burns from the pistol on his temple.

5) It was suicide, not murder.

Now to those who send in the right solution, we will send a large, suitable for framing certificate promoting you to the rank of *special investigator* in our Shield G Man Club, and your names will be printed on this page announcing your promotions. The proper solution will be given in the next Shield G Man Bulletin.

This contest is open *only to members of the Shield G Man Club, or those sending in for membership along with their answers.*

Get going, pals, and good luck.

Sincerely,
Joe Higgins

USE THIS ENTIRE COUPON!!

JUST PRINT PLAINLY ON THIS COUPON, YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AGE AND SEND IT TO ME WITH 10c TO COVER COST OF MAILING AND HANDLING.

Joe Higgins
Room 603
241 Church St.
New York City

Deer Joe:
Please enroll me as a member of the **SHIELD G-MAN CLUB.** I am enclosing this coupon together with Ten Cents to cover the costs of handling and mailing my Badge and Identification Card.

NAME .....

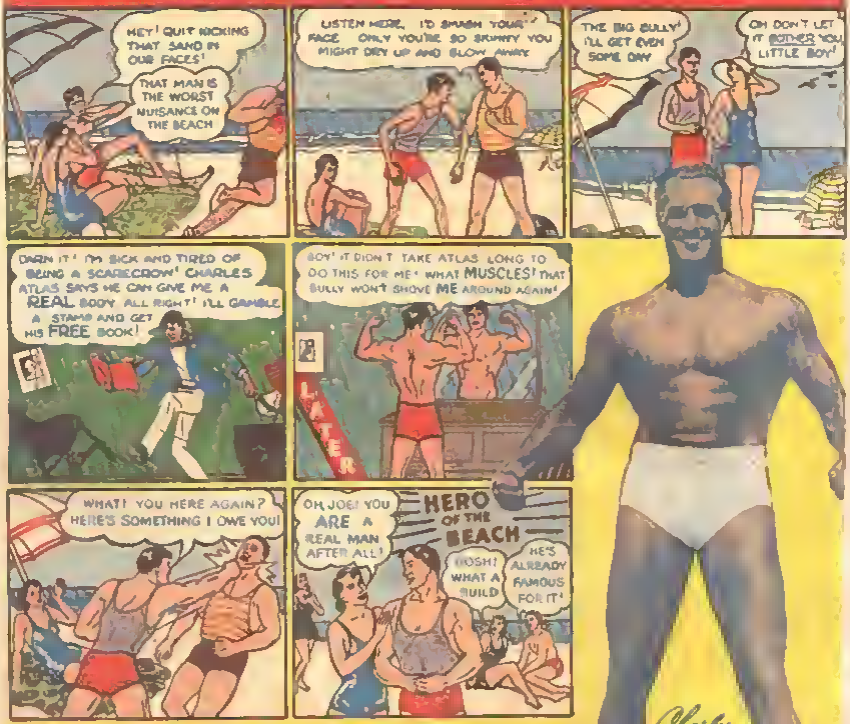
ADDRESS ..... AGE .....

CUT ON THIS LINE

EXACT COPY OF BADGE IN THREE COLORS RED—WHITE—BLUE

DECEMBER 1944 Volume 1, Number 51 PEP COMICS is published quarterly March, June, September and December by M. L. J Magazines 4-48 Dean St. at 84 Lodi St. Hackensack, N. J. Editorial offices 241 Church Street, New York 13, N. Y. Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Hackensack, N. J. under the Act of March 3, 1879. Copyright 1944, by M. L. J Magazines Yearly subscription 40c in U. S. A. single copy 10c. No serial story is named or depicted in this fiction magazine. Printed in the U. S. A. For advertising rates write DOUBLE ACTION COMIC GROUP, 241 Church Street, New York 13, N. Y.

HOW JOE'S BODY BROUGHT HIM FAME INSTEAD OF SHAME



—actual photo of the man who holds the title, "The World's Most Perfectly Developed Man"

I Can Make YOU a New Man, Too, in Only 15 Minutes a Day!

If YOU like Joe, have a body that others can "push around"—if you're ashamed to strip for sports or a swim—then give me just 15 minutes a day! I'll PROVE you can have a body you'll be proud of packed with red-blooded vitality! "*Dynamic Tension*" That's the secret! That's how I changed myself from a spindle-shanked scrawny weakling to winner of the title "World's Most Perfectly Developed Man

"*Dynamic Tension*" Does It!

Using "*Dynamic Tension*" only 15 minutes a day, in the privacy of your own room, you quickly begin to put on muscle increase your chest measurements, broaden your back, fill out your arms and legs. Before you know it, this easy, NATURAL method will make you a finer specimen of REAL MANHOOD than you ever dreamed you could be. "You'll be a New Man"

FREE BOOK

Thousands of fellows have used my marvelous system Read what they say — see how they looked before and after — in my book, Everlasting Health and Strength"

Send NOW for this book—*FREE* It tells all about "*Dynamic Tension*," shows you actual photos of men I've turned from puny weaklings into Atlas Champions. It tells how I can do the same for YOU Don't put it off! Address me personally Charles Atlas, Dept. 259 M 115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N.Y.

CHARLES ATLAS, Dept. 259-M
115 East 23rd St., New York 10, N. Y.

I want the proof that your system of "*Dynamic Tension*" will help make a New Man of me — give me a healthy, husky body and big muscular development. Send me your free book, "Everlasting Health and Strength."

Name . . . . . .
(Please print or write plainly)

Address . . . . . .

City . . . . . State . . .

☐ Check here if under 16 for Booklet A

THE ORIGINAL
SHIELD
AND
DUSTY
the BOY DETECTIVE
IN
ORPHANS
OF
DEATH

ONE DAY AS JOE HOBBS OF THE F.B.I. WAITS FOR A BUS --
LAC
WOULD YOU MIND HOLDING MY BABY FOR A MOMENT SO THAT I MAY BE ABLE TO GET MY FARE?
WHY NO! I'D BE GLAD TO!
YOU'VE GOT A REAL CUTE BABY HERE, LADY!
SOMETIMES I WISH I HAD A - HEY! NOW WHERE DID SHE GO TO?
SIR?
LAC
GOOD HEAVENS MAN, THAT'S NO WAY TO HOLD YOUR BABY!
MY BABY! ARE YOU KIDDING? THIS ISN'T MY CHILD LADY! YOU SEE --
DENYING YOUR OWN CHILD! YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!
GULP! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE!
-BUT IT'S A CINCH THAT I CAN'T TRAVEL HOME BY BUS! I ONLY HOPE I CAN GET A CAB!

MEANWHILE, LET'S TURN TO DUSTY-
LA DE DUM♪♪ I'D BETTER PICK OUT THE RECORDS I WANT FOR TOMORROW'S JIVE PARTY!
♪ MAIRZY-DOTES N DOEZ-E-DOTES ♪♪ 'N- OH OH! THERE GOES THE DOORBELL! WHO IS IT?
RING
IT'S ME-JOE! OPEN THE DOOR!
I CAN'T-I'VE GOT MY HANDS FULL!
SO HAVE I! I'VE GOT A BABY IN MY ARMS!
OH A BABY! "THAT'S DIFFER-ENT!
A BABY!
I WASN'T KIDDING!
WHERE'D YOU GET THAT FROM?
A LADY ASKED ME TO HOLD HER BABY AND WHEN I TURNED AROUND, SHE DISAPPEARED!
HE'S A CUTE KID, BUT WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO WITH HIM?

BAW! WHAH! WHAH! WAW!
THE FIRST THING WE HAVE TO DO IS TO STOP HIM FROM CRYING! HERE'S A RATTLE THAT WAS TIED TO HIS HAND!
KITCHY KOO! KITCHY KOO! WOOK AT THE PWETTY WATTWE!
JUST THEN AT F.B.I. H'DQ'RT'S
I HAVE JUST THE MAN FOR YOU INSPECTOR McGREGOR!
GOOD! LET'S GO TO HIM NOW!
THIS MAN I HAVE IN MIND IS THE FAMOUS JOE HIGGINS- A MAN WITHOUT NERVES OR FEELINGS -A HARD MAN!
THE HARDER THE BETTER!
HELLO! WHAT'S THIS?
KITCHY KOO! KITCHY KOO! DON'T CRY- BE A GOOD-OH-ER- HELLO CHIEF!
OOPS!
A HARD MAN, EH! SEEMS VERY MATERNAL TO ME!
WHERE'D YOU GET THE CHILD FROM JOE?
NEVER MIND NOW, CHIEF! HERE DUSTY TAKE HIM
WHAT'S UP CHIEF?
THIS IS INSPECTOR McGREGOR OF THE CITY POLICE, LET HIM TELL HIS STORY!

YOU MAY HAVE HEARD OF JOHN PETERS A BRILLIANT YOUNG CHEMIST. VERY RECENTLY HE TURNED OVER A DEADLY NEW EXPLOSIVE, HE HAD PERFECTED, TO THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES. THIS MORNING, PETER'S BODY WAS FOUND IN HIS APARTMENT— MURDERED!
HIS WIFE WHO HELPED HIM WITH THE EXPERIMENT WAS GONE AS WAS HER BABY.. IT MIGHT HAVE FALLEN INTO THE HANDS OF THE MURDERERS. THEY WILL NO DOUBT TRY TO GET HER TO DISCLOSE THE FORMULA
I SEE! SUPPOSE WE HAVE A LOOK AT THE BODY!
LEAVING THE CHILD IN DUSTY'S CARE, THE THREE MEN LEAVE FOR THE APARTMENT-
LATER--
CHOKED TO DEATH BY A MAN OF UNUSUAL STRENGTH!
ANY CLUES?
NOT ONE. THIS JOB WAS DONE BY A VERY SLICK OPERATOR!
SAY- IT'S SIX-THIRTY- I WONDER IF DUSTY WILL REMEMBER TO FEED THE CHILD—
EXCUSE ME WHILE I CALL HIM!
A HARD MAN- EH? HA! HA!

BOY, THIS BUSINESS OF BEING A MOTHER IS TOUGH!
RING
HELLO, JOE, YEAH I'M HEATING-THE CEREAL NOW-DON'T WORRY - I'M-
WHA-
UGH!
HELLO! HELLO DUSTY!
WHAT'S WRONG?
SOMETHING'S HAPPENED- I'M BEATING IT BACK TO MY APARTMENT PRONTO!
WHILE AT JOE'S APARTMENT-
THIS MAY BE A JOB FOR THE SHIELD!
QUICK! GET THE BABY, FISHFACE. I HAVE SOME PRESSING BUSINESS WITH THIS BRAT!
UGH- AGHHH
GOT 'IM FIVE BY FIVE!

YOU DID AN EXCELLENT JOB TRAILING THE BABY, FISHFACE! EXCELLENT!
YEAH! BUT I AIN'T SO GOOD WIT BABIES! HOW DO I KEEP DIS ONE FROM BAWLIN'?
HERE'S A RATTLE FISH-FACE. MAYBE IT'LL SHUT HIM UP!
LOOK FIVE BY FIVE! HE'S SMILIN IT DID THE TRICK!
GOOD! LET'S GO!
A FEW MINUTES AFTER THEY DEPART DUSTY STIRS - THEN RISES GROGGILY
OH - MY NECK
BOY THAT FAT BABY SURE HAD POWERFUL HANDS! WONDER WHY THEY WANTED THE KID?
SWIFTLY SLIPPING INTO HIS UNIFORM, DUSTY BECOMES THE BOY DETECTIVE -
I'LL HAVE TO HURRY IF I WANT TO FIND OUT - BUT I'VE GOT TO LET JOE KNOW WHERE I'M GOING SOMEHOW!
I KNOW, I'LL LEAVE A TRAIL WITH THIS CAN OF CEREAL!

THERE THEY GO INTO THAT CAR!— I'D BETTER STEP ON IT!
MADE IT!
THERE'S NO SIGN OF DUSTY OR THE KID! WHAT'S THIS ON THE FLOOR?
CEREAL— AND THERE SEEMS TO BE A TRAIL OF IT!
BY GEORGE! I GET IT! DUSTY LEFT THIS AS A TRAIL FOR ME TO FOLLOW!
GOOD BOY DUSTY! THIS TRAIL IS AS PLAIN AS THE NOSE ON MY FACE!
MEANWHILE THE CAR BEARING DUSTY PULLS UP BEFORE AN OLD ABANDONED WAREHOUSE!
WAREHOUSE

NOW MRS PETERS I THINK YOU WILL GIVE ME THE INFORMATION I WANT!
MY--MY BABY!
YES MY DEAR ALIVE NOW BUT NOT FOR LONG - UNLESS -
NO! NO! I'LL TELL! IT'S IN -
HOLD EVERYTHING
HUH? WHO-
MY INNINGS NOW FATTY!
I'LL MAKE SURE OF YOU THIS TIME YOU IMP!
AAARGHH
JUST THEN -
WAHOOOO
UP AND AT EM DUSTY
M'WAH AHEAD OF YOU SHIELD
OUNOTCED IN THE MELEE FIVE BY FIVE AND FSMFACE MAKE THEIR ESCAPE!
HURRY TO THE CAR FSMFACE HE WHO FIGHTS AND RUNS AWAY LIVES TO FIGHT ANOTHER DAY

THEY'RE GETTING AWAY IN THE CAR!
FRIGHTENED BY HIS MOTHER'S SHOUTS, THE CHILD DROPS HIS RATTLE -
WHICH ROLLS TOWARD THE KILLER'S CAR -
AS IT STRIKES THE AUTO, A TREMENDOUS EXPLOSION OCCURS -
LATER
AND SO INSPECTOR McGREGOR THE CASE IS COMPLETELY CLEANED!
I STILL DON'T GET IT, JOE!
IT'S VERY SIMPLE! FIVE BY FIVE KNEW HE COULDN'T GET THE FORMULA. HOWEVER A SAMPLE OF THE EXPLOSIVE WOULD BE JUST AS GOOD. BUT MRS. PETERS HID THAT BEFORE SHE FLED!
FIVE BY FIVE CAUGHT HER - BUT HE WAS SMART ENOUGH TO KNOW THE ONLY WAY HE COULD GET HER TO TALK WAS THROUGH HER BABY - WHICH BY A STRANGE TWIST OF FATE, SHE TURNED OVER TO ME WHILE FLEEING!
- IT ALMOST WORKED EXCEPT THAT DUSTY SPOILED THE SHOW - YOU SEE, THE EXPLOSIVE WAS IN THE BABY'S RATTLE ALL THE TIME!
WHAT! AND WE WERE JIGGLING THAT RATTLE ALL OVER THE PLACE. WE COULD HAVE BEEN BLOWN SKY-HIGH!
NO DUSTY, IT HAD TO DROP ON SOMETHING TO DETONATE THE CHARGE — THE BABY DID THAT, AND UNKNOWINGLY, AVENGED HIS FATHER'S DEATH!

The Black HOOD
MAN OF MYSTERY
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE? IT COULDN'T HAPPEN IN THIS DAY AND AGE YOU SAY? THEN THE STORY YOU ARE ABOUT TO READ WILL APPEAR FANTASTIC, UNBELIEVABLE EVEN THE BLACK HOOD WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED IT—IF IT HADN'T HAPPENED TO HIM!!

NIGHT AND FROM THE FOG SHROUDED WATERS THERE LOOMS THE PROW OF A STRANGE SHIP—
A BOAT IS LOWERED OVERSIDE STRONG ARMS ROW A FLAT BOTTOMED CRAFT NOISELESSLY OVER THE DARK CRESTING WAVES—
AND MEN IN PIRATE GARB ARMED TO THE TEETH, SWARM LIKE MONKEYS OVER THE SLOPING SIDES OF A PEACEFUL CRAFT—
QUIET, MEN! WE DON'T WANT TO FRIGHTEN THEM NOT UNTIL WE'RE READY!
AVAST YE HEATHEN SLIT THEIR GULLETS, IF NEED BE!
A GOOD NIGHT'S WORK ME HEARTIES! WE'LL SLEEP ON STACKS OF GOLD WHEN THIS JOB IS DONE! YE CAN TAKE BLACKBEARD'S WORD ON THAT!
NEXT MORNING AT PRECINCT 71—
DAGNABBIT! BLACKBEARD'S MAKING A FOOL OF THE WHOLE POLICE DEPARTMENT! HE'S ROBBED 3 SHIPS ALREADY! WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT IT?
WHY ME? BLACKBEARD ISN'T MY ASSIGNMENT!
STARTING TWO MINUTES AGO, HE IS! I'M PUTTING YOU ON THE WATERFRONT! YOUR ORDERS ARE TO BRING IN BLACKBEARD!

THAT NIGHT, KID BURLAND PATROLS A CURIOUS BEAT - IN THE GAME ROOM OF JACKSON CARR'S PALATIAL YACHT RIDING AT ANCHOR IN THE BAY
ENJOYING YOURSELF?
JUST DOING MY JOB, MR CARR! I WON'T INTERFERE WITH YOUR FUN!
JACKSON CARR'S GUESTS HAVE THEIR OWN IDEAS OF 'FUN'
SEE THAT DEVIL JUMP!
HE HOPPED RIGHT PAST MY NUMBER!
AT LAST THE FROG LEAPS INTO ONE OF THE WHIRLING DISKS THERE IS A BLAZE OF ELECTRICITY—
NUMBER FOURTEEN WINS!
AN INTERESTING GAME, DON'T YOU THINK? THE FROG IS ELECTROCUTED WHEN HE LANDS ON A NUMBER!
AHM! JACKSON CARR'S FRIENDS ARE WILLING TO TRY ANYTHING FOR A THRILL
THIS IS MY OWN IDEA! THESE PIRANHA FISH WILL TEAR EACH OTHER LIMB FROM LIMB! WOULD YOU CARE TO PLACE A BET?
NO THANKS!
SAY THAT SHIP'S OFFICER LOOKS FAMILIAR!
I'LL SWEAR HE WAS HOOK MARTIN! WANTED BY THE POLICE OF A DOZEN STATES! I'LL FIND OUT WHAT HE'S DOING ABOARD THIS YACHT!

SECONDS LATER ...
I JUST DROPPED IN FOR A TALK!
THE BLACK HOOD!
BUT I CAN SEE YOU'RE IN NO MOOD FOR TALKING!
OWWW!
I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO OBLIGE!
YOU BOYS CAN FIGHT THIS OUT TOGETHER!
I'LL JUST ADD A FINISHING TOUCH!
OHHH! YOU CALL THAT A TOUCH!
OHHHH!
PAINFUL MINUTES LATER-
THEY'VE GONE! I'LL TELL JACKSON CARR HE'S HIRED A CREW OF CRIMINALS! THEY WON'T GET OFF THE SHIP!

LOCKED IN!
MAYBE I CAN SQUEEZE THROUGH HERE!
SQUIRMING AND TWISTING, THE AGILE BLACK HOOD WORKS HIS LEGS THROUGH THE PORTHOLE.
IF I CAN ONLY HOOK MY LEGS IN THAT LEDGE ABOVE
WHEW! NOW COMES THE HARDEST PART!
MADE IT! BUT IT WAS TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT!
EVEN AS THE BLACK HOOD REGAINS THE DECK, A MOTLEY PIRATE CREW SWARM OVER THE PORT SIDE—
LAY TO, MEN! THERE'S PLENTY OF LOOT FOR US ALL!
BLACKBEARD AND HIS PIRATE CREW ARE STRIKING—

DON'T BE SHY! GIVE WILLINGLY OR WE'LL TAKE IT FROM YOU WITH A SWORD'S EDGE FROM YOUR THROATS!
THEN A CAPED FIGURE CRASHES INTO THE GAME SALON—
I HOPE I'M INTERRUPTING SOMETHING!
SORRY! BUT I DON'T GET THE POINT!
YOU GET THIS?
YE ROGUES! DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!
WHO SAID I WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE!
YEOWWW!
HALP! GET ME OFF THIS WHEEL! I'M DIZZY!

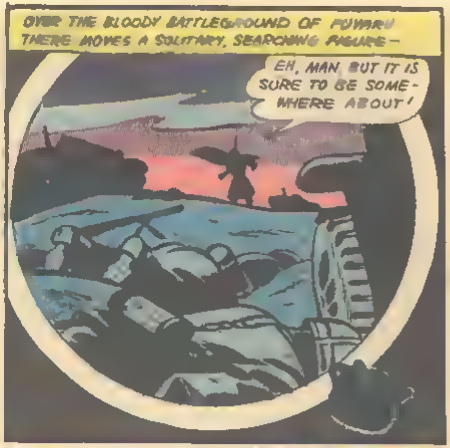
BLACKBEARD FIGHTS BACK LIKE A SAVAGE ANIMAL—
I'LL TEACH YOU NOT TO MEDDLE WITH ME!
MY EYES!
MOMENTARILY BLINDED, THE BLACK HOOD FALLS VICTIM TO A VICIOUS THRUST—
HA-HA! YOU ASKED FOR IT!
LATER THE BLACK HOOD WAKENS TO FIND A NEW PERIL—
A FIT DEATH FOR AN ENEMY OF BLACK-BEARD! YE'LL WALK THE PLANK TO YOUR DOOM!
PLEASANT DREAMS HA HA HA!
DOWN THROUGH THE COLD GREEN DEPTHS THE BLACK HOOD PLUNGES TOWARD THE OCEAN BOTTOM—
A DESPERATE RACE AGAINST TIME. WHILE BREATH BURSTS IN HIS LUNGS, AND THE TERRIBLE PRESSURE HOLDS HIS BODY IN A VISE-LIKE GRIP
CAN'T LAST LONG GOT TO FREE MY HANDS!
THE ROPES LOOSER! I'VE GOT TO HURRY!

AT LAST! NOW TO GET RID OF THESE WEIGHTS!
THE LONG FIGHT UPWARD BEGINS -
FRESH AIR! IT CERTAINLY SMELLS GOOD!
MEANWHILE
WE'LL BE LEAVING NOW! IF ANY MAN JACK O' YOU STICKS OUT HIS HEAD UNTIL WE'RE CLEAR AWAY, I'LL CHOP IT OFF WITH MY SABRE EDGE! YOU UNDERSTAND ME!
THANK YE ALL FOR A PLEASANT EVENING! AND A GOOD NIGHT TO YOU... FROM BLACKBEARD! HA HA HA!
BLACKBEARD MUST HAVE GONE I DON'T SEE HIS SHIP ANYWHERE!
IT WAS A NEAT HAUL TONIGHT! I'LL BET THOSE FOOLS ARE STILL AFRAID TO LEAVE THE GAMING ROOM
WELL, I'LL BE HOOK MARTIN AND HIS GANG ARE THE PIRATES!

GRAB HIM!
THE BLACK HOOD
DON'T BE IN SUCH A HURRY!
I'LL FIX THE HOOD! HE WON'T LEAVE THIS ROOM!
I'LL TAKE THE KEYS TO THE DOOR!
UGHHH!
THAT DOES IT! HOOK MARTIN AND HIS PIRATES WILL STAY IN THERE UNTIL I COME BACK FOR THEM!
LET ME OUT!
A SKELETON KEY ADMITS THE HOOD TO THE SUPPLY ROOM
PIRATE COSTUMES THAT FLAG WITH ITS SKULL AND CROSS BONES NOW I UNDERSTAND!
SO YOU KNOW MY SECRET! BUT IT WILL DIE WITH YOU!
BLACK-BEARD!
A QUICK LEAP AND THE BLACK HOOD SNATCHES A WEAPON-
WE'LL FIGHT ON EVEN TERMS!

YOU DEVIL! I'M NO MATCH FOR YOU!
BUT YOU'LL NEVER GET ME!
THE MAD DUEL CONTINUES THROUGHOUT THE DECK
I'LL KILL YOU!
AAAAHHHH
SECONDS LATER-
JACKSON CARR! YOUR HOST WAS BLACKBEARD HIMSELF! HE PRETENDED TO ROB HIS OWN SHIP!
WHY WHY HE'S
LATER AT PRECINCT 11
JACKSON CARR SPENT ALL HIS MONEY HUNTING THRILLS HE WENT BROKE AND TURNED TO CRIME AS AN EXCITING WAY OF RECOUPING HIS FORTUNE!
YEAH BUT WHAT ABOUT THE BLACK HOOD?
I'M SURE HE WUZ INVOLVED IN IT, SOMEHOW, KIP! I WANT YOU TO BRING HIM IN! THAT'S AN ORDER!
CONSIDER IT DONE, SARGE ER I MEAN I'LL TRY MY BEST

CAPTAIN COMMANDO
and the BOY SOLDIERS
COMMUNIQUE # 17
TO ALL COMMANDO UNITS IN THE ACTION ON ARUNDO. FOLLOW THE SOUND OF SANDY MACGOWN'S BAGPIPES. THEY WILL BE LEADING THE WAY TO VICTORY
Captain Commando



So SANDY MACGOWN AND HIS BAGPIPE WERE REUNITED, ONA BATTLEFIELD STREWN WITH SCOTTISH DEAD. FOR THE ACTION AT FUYARU WAS HARD AND COSTLY, AND FEW WERE LEFT TO CELEBRATE THE VICTORY—

AFTER TWO HOURS OF FRUITLESS ARGUMENT...
VERY WELL! YOU CAN TAKE YOUR BAGPIPES! BUT I'VE NO IDEA WHAT THE COMMANDOS WILL THINK!
I AM SURE THEY ARE MOST REASONABLE MEN AN' IT WILL BE A PLEASURE TO KNOW THEM
SEVERAL DAYS LATER- A SHIPS' DOCK-
WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE CAPTAIN?
WAITING FOR SOMEONE! AND HERE COMES NOW!
HEY! YOU DON'T MEAN DAT GUY IN SKOITS!
SANDY MACGOWN IS HIS NAME! AND THOSE KILTS ARE THE REGULAR SCOTTISH UNIFORM
GLAD TO HAVE YOU WITH US MACGOWN!
BEGORRA! AN' IT'S GLAD I AM TO BE HERE!
SKOITS! AND A GUY WHAT NEVER LOINED TO TALK ENGLISH WIT' OUT AN ACCENT! WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN NEXT?
THE ANSWER TO BROOKLYN'S QUESTION IS SOON FORTHCOMING. THAT NIGHT, THE PEACE AND QUIET OF THE SLEEPING CAMP IS RUDELY INTERRUPTED-
CRIPES! WHAT'S COMING OFF AROUND HERE? I NEVER HOID SUCH NOISE IN ALL ME LIFE!
I RECOG-NIZE DAT! DAT IS THE SOUND OF BAGPIPES!
3

EET EES OUR NEW FRIEND MR MACGOWN PLAYING!
DAT GUY AIN'T NO FRIEND OF MINE! HE'S BUSTIN' ME EAR-DRUMS!
WAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
I'M GONNA FIX DEM PIPES SO DEY CAN'T MAKE NO NOISE! DAT GUY IS SABOTAGIN' ME MORALE!
WITH THE CATLIKE SILENCE OF A COMMANDO BROOKLYN MAKES HIS WAY TOWARD MACGOWN'S TENT—
HE STOPPED BLOWIN'! DAT MEANS HE'S ASLEEP!
HERE'S ME CHANCE!
YEEEOW
SO! YOU WERE TRYING TO STEAL MY PIPES, EH LAD?
LEGGO OF ME!
YOU'RE A HARD LAD! IT'LL TAKE A MITE O' SPANKIN' TO SET YOU STRAIGHT ABOUT THINGS LIKE STEALIN'!
4

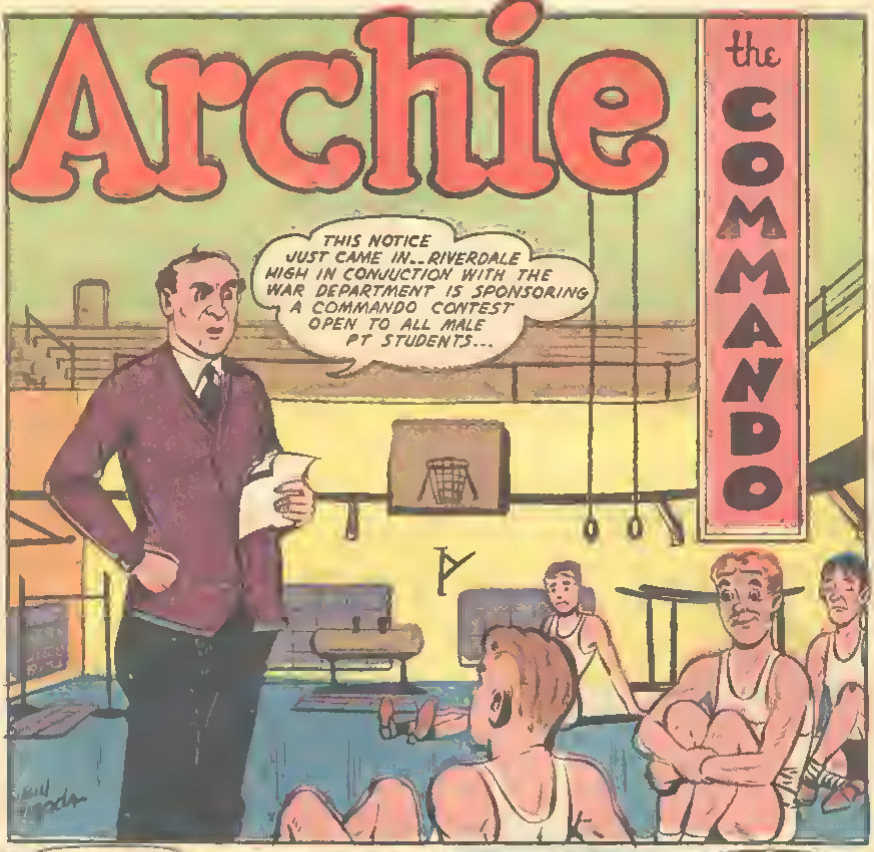
PAINFUL MINUTES LATER BROOKLYN RETURNS TO HIS TENT-
DEED YOU PEEX HIS BAGPIPE SO IT WEEL NOT PLAY ?
SHADDUP !
DON'T NEVER MENTION NO BAGPIPES TO ME ! YE UNNERSTAN' ?
EES SOMETHEENG HURTING YOU ?
OOOOH
NAH ! AN' DON'T AST ME WHY I'M SLEEPIN' ON ME STOMACH EITHER ! DAT'S JUST CUZ I LIKE IT, SEE ?
OUI ! EEF YOU SAY SO BROOKLYN !
BUT MORNING BRINGS NEW TOLERANCE TO BROOKLYN'S SOUL, AND RELIEF TO ANOTHER PORTION OF HIS ANATOMY
HOOT AWDO ! ME PIPES AND I WILL BE READY !
WE'RE MOVING ON ARUNDA MEN ! OUR JOB IS TO SECURE THE BEACH SO THE MARINES AND OTHER REGULAR ARMY UNITS CAN MOVE IN !
IS IT NECESSARY TO TAKE THE BAGPIPE TOO, MACGOWN ?
I'VE ME OWN REASONS, SIR ! I PROMISE YE THERE WILL BE NARY A PEEP OUT OF THEM UNTIL THE TIME COMES !
ALL RIGHT THEN ! THIS WON'T BE A PUSHOVER ! THE JAPS WILL DEFEND ARUNDA TO THE LAST MAN WE LEAVE AT MIDNIGHT ! UNTIL THEN GOOD LUCK !
PROMPTLY TO THE APPOINTED HOUR THE LANDING BARGES BEGIN AN EXPEDITION INTO PERIL CARRYING THE GRIM COMMANDOS TO AN UNKNOWN FATE-
5

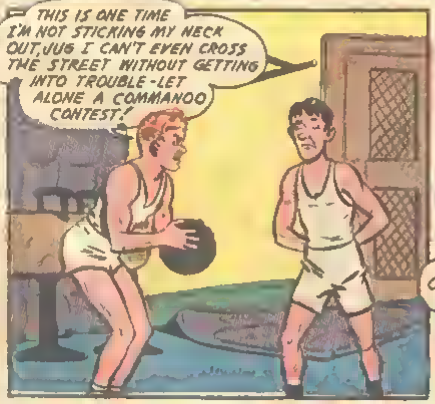
WE SHOULD BE NEARING THE BEACH!
I DINNA LIKE IT! THE JAPS ARE A WILY SORT AND THEY HAVE SEEN US 'ERE THIS!
SILENTLY THE FLAT-BOTTOMED BARGE GLIDES IN TO THE BEACH-
NO SIGN OF ANYONE ABOUT!
THEY'RE HERE - WE MAY LAY TO THAT!
WE'LL HAVE TO RISK IT! COME ON, MEN!
HARDLY ARE ALL THE COMMANDOS ASHORE WHEN A WITHERING CROSSFIRE BLASTS THEM DOWN-
THE DIVILS ARE LYIN' BEHIND THE KNOLL!
WE'RE TRAPPED! BACK TO THE BOATS!
FROM THE SCANTY SHELTER OFFERED BY THE LANDING BARGES, THE COMMANDOS WAGE A VALIANT BUT HOPELESS BATTLE AGAINST ODDS-
WE CAN'T LAST LONG AT THIS RATE! WE'VE GOT TO CHARGE THOSE GUNS!
BUT EVEN THE STOUT HEARTS OF THE COMMANDOS QUAIL AT THE THOUGHT OF THE TASK BEFORE THEM-
IT IS SURE DEATH TO GO OUT THERE!
SACRE NOM! I AM A COWARD! I CANNOT DO EET!
I ALWAYS KNEW IT'D BE DULL TO LIVE TO A RIPE OLD AGE! NOW I DON'T HAFTA FIND OUT!

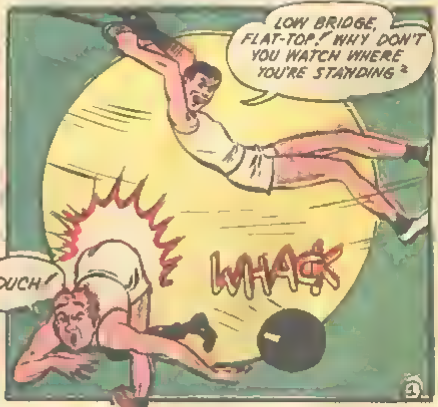
AND WHILE THE COMMANDOS HESITATE, A LONE FIGURE STRIDES BOLDLY OUT OF CONCEALMENT—
MACGOWN! COME BACK HERE, YOU FOOL!
COME ON, YOU JAPS! MACGOWN IS SHOWING US THE WAY!
UP THE STEEP SLOPE IN THE FACE OF MURDEROUS FIRE THE COMMANDOS BLAST THEIR WAY FORWARD—
DOWN INTO THE JAP MACHINE GUN NESTS WITH GLEAMING BAYONET—
AIEEE!
HERE'S A LITTLE PINEAPPLE TO ADD TO YOUR DIET!
BOOM!
AFTER SWIFT DEADLY SECONDS OF MERCILESS FIRE—
WE'VE WON THE BEACH! WHERE IS MACGOWN?
THERE HE IS, CAP!

YOU'RE BADLY HURT!
'TIS NO MATTER ABOUT ME! BUT I COULD HAE WISHED TO LIVE LONGER TO PLAY THE PIBES... FOR THE SCOTS WHO DIED AT BUYARU!
I PROMISED THIM I WOULD PLAY A LAST VICTORY TUNE WHEN I'D MADE THE JAPS PAY
MACGOWN!
THAT DAY THE AMERICA'S SHOCK TROOP SWEEP ON TO A SMASHING TRIUMPH ON THE BLOODY ATOLL OF ARUNDA
WE'VE GOT 'EM ON THE RUN! CHARGE!
HE'S GONE! SO THAT'S WHY HE BROUGHT HIS BAGPIPES! HE WANTED HIS OLD BRIGADE TO SHARE IN THE LAST VICTORY!
ONLY HE NEVER LIVED TO PLAY DEIR SONG!
MAYBE DERE IS STILL SOMETHING WE CAN DO ABOUT DAT!
AND THE WHEEZY STRAINS OF A BAGPIPE PLAY THE SCOTTISH HYMNOF VICTORY AS WELL AS UNEXPERT HANDS CAN MANAGE!
NICE GOING BROOKLYN! YOU DON'T SOUND HALF BAD!
E-E-E-E-E-E-
LATER, BESIDE AN OPEN GRAVE-
YOU CARRIED THE BAGPIPE WITH YOU IN LIFE SANDY! IT BELONGS TO YOU IN DEATH!
I HOPE HE DIDN'T MIND ME BLOWING HIS PIPE!
HE UNDERSTOOD BROOKLYN! I'M SURE SANDY MACGOWN AND HIS BRAVE SCOTS WERE LISTENING! AND THEY WERE PROUD!

Archie the COMMANDO







REGGIE MANTLE, YOU SNARK MY THE GRASS!! YOU PURPOSELY DID THAT!! @#!@
SOME DAY I'M GOING TO FLATTEN THAT GUY, ARCH SO HELP ME!
YOU'RE JUST A BAG OF WIND!! I BET YOU'RE TOO SCARED TO ENTER THAT COMMANDO CONTEST!
LISTEN, REGGIE!! YOU NOR ANYONE ELSE CAN MAKE ME ENTER THAT CONTEST!! BESIDES I'M TOO BUSY!
LUNCH HOUR
BOY, THEY'RE SURE SERIOUS ABOUT THAT CONTEST, ARCH MAYBE YOU OUGHTA..
I SAID NO, JUG - AND THAT'S THAT C'MON, LET'S EAT I'M HUNGRY!
MENU
APPLES
VEGETABLES
GOSH! THE LINE HAS NEVER BEEN AS LONG AS THIS BEFORE!!
20 minutes later!
HEY, JERRY! WHAT'S HOLDING THIS LINE? I'M STARVED!!
HOLD YOUR HORSES! IT'LL BE OVER BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!
WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THAT CRACK?!
2

NAME?
DO YOU HAVE TO GIVE YOUR NAME NOW FOR A HAM SANDWICH?
R
WE CAN DO WITHOUT THE CLOWNING! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?!
ER.. ARCHIE ANDREWS...
ALL RIGHT ANDREWS REPORT AT JOHNSON'S MEADOW NEXT WEEK FOR THE COMMANDO CONTEST!!
C-C-COMMANDO CONTEST?!
JUGHEAD JONES!
R
CRASH
NEXT WEEK
WELL WELL!! IF IT ISN'T OL' PINHEAD HIMSELF!! SO YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND! GOOD LUCK! YOU'LL NEED IT!!
3
1
ATTENTION! THESE ARE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS! YOU WILL FOLLOW NUMBERED LANES DURING WHICH YOU WILL OVERCOME THE VARIOUS OBSTACLES YOU'LL MEET! THE FIRST ONE IN IS THE WINNER!!
3

THEY'RE OFF!
JOE
WHAT'S HOLDING YOU? C'MON!!
HAVE A NICE TRIP! HAW! AIN'T I FUNNY!!
HELP!
SKWUSH
DARN THAT REGGIE! I'LL GET HIM YET!
YOU LOOK BETTER ALREADY! THAT MUD BATH DID WONDERS FOR YOU!

UGH! THIS ISN'T EASY AS I THOUGHT!! UGH!! UMPH!
I CAN'T MAKE IT!! IF I COULD GET A BOOST! SAY THAT POLE!!
BOY! TALK ABOUT COMMANDO TRICKS. REGGIE SHOULD SEE THIS ONE!
HALP!
WHAT TH.. THAT SOUNDS LIKE ARCHIE'S VOICE..
WHAT'RE YOU DOING UP THERE, ARCH?
STOP TALKING! AND GET ME DOWN!!
later...
WHEW!! LUCKY ONLY JUGHEAD HEARD ME..HEY...THIS LOOKS EASY.. JUST ROW ACROSS!

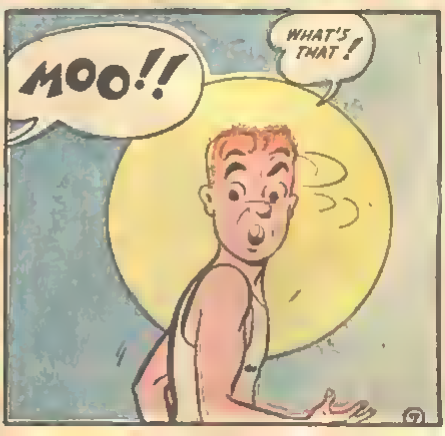
UGH! WHAT'S HOLDING THIS TUB BACK? UGH!!
YIPE!! I FORGOT TO UNDO THE MOORING ROPE!!
THIS IS GOING TO BE GOOD!! I'LL JUST POINT THIS THE OTHER WAY!! WON'T ARCHIE BE SURPRISED!!
IT WORKED!
LAKE
BOY! THEY'RE SURE MAKING THESE OBSTACLES DIFFUCULT!! I'M PRACTICALLY A MOUNTAIN CLIMBER!
HEY!

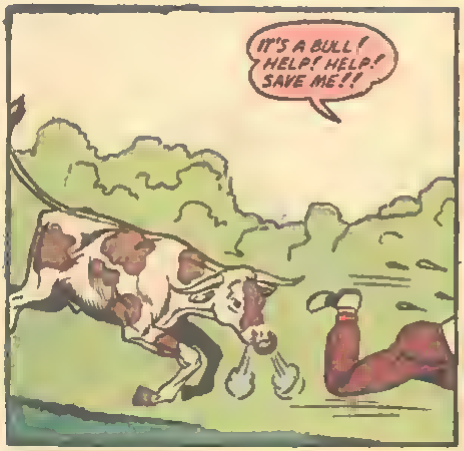
HELP!

ONE HOUR LATER.
YOW! I'M BEGINNING TO WONDER IF I'M GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION!!

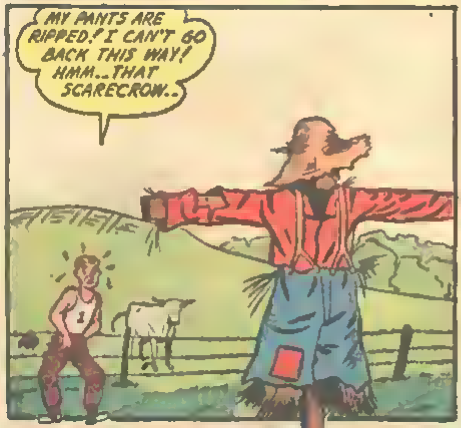
ULP..WHAT NOW? WELL, I GUESS I'M SUPPOSED TO CRAWL THROUGH THOSE PIPES OR OR THEY WOULDN'T BE HERE!

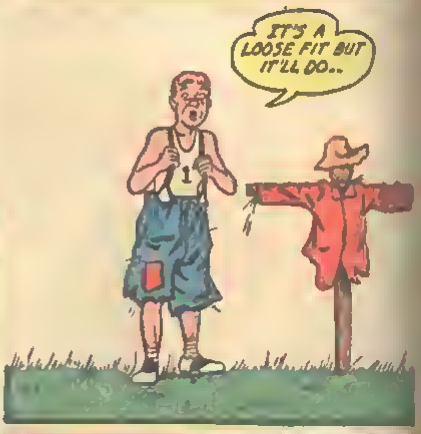
OOOo...MY BACK! THEY MUST BE TRAINING US TO CRAWL TO CHINA IT'S PRACTICALLY THE SAME DISTANCE!


MOO!!
WHAT'S THAT!


IT'S A BULL! HELP! HELP! SAVE ME!!

MADE IT!! ULP.. WHAT'S THAT??


MY PANTS ARE RIPPED! I CAN'T GO BACK THIS WAY! HMM..THAT SCARECROW..


IT'S A LOOSE FIT BUT IT'LL DO..

GULP-THE FARMER'S COMING I BETTER HIDE!

DAGNABBIT! THOSE CROWS ARE HERE AGAIN!! THAT SCARECROW DON'T SEEM TO DO ANY GOOD!!

I'LL FINISH 'EM FOR GOOD THIS TIME!
BANG BANG
YEOW!
THAT WAS CLOSE! BUT NOW DO I GET BACK TO LANE 4?
THERE'S THE MIDTOWN BUS!! HEY!! STOP!! HOLD IT!
GEE... THE WAY THEY STARE AT ME YOU'D THINK I WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD.
SAY I CAME FROM THIS DIRECTION... SOMEBODY MUST HAVE TURNED THIS ARROW AROUND---
THIS EXPLAINS EVERYTHING... AND I THINK I KNOW WHO DID IT - REGGIE, THE RAT! I'LL TURN IT BACK TO THE RIGHT DIRECTION!
LANE 4

MEANWHILE, WHAT OF REGGIE
WHEW..THEY CERTAINLY MADE THIS A LONG LANE- HOLY MACKEREL..LANE 4 AGAIN. I MUST'VE BEEN WALKING IN CIRCLES!
3
LANE 4
I SWITCHED THIS ARROW AROUND, SO I'LL GO IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION..OF COURSE! BOY, DID I MAKE SUCH A FOOL OUT OF THE REST OF THE CROWD!
LANE 4
..AND SO ARCHIE RESUMES THE COMMANDO RACE - COMPLETELY ALONE, FOR EVERY OTHER CONTESTANT WAS FOOLED BY REGGIE'S TRICK- INCLUDING REGGIE HIMSELF.
I MADE IT! I WIN!!
1
THAT EVE..
IT WAS IN THE BAG ALL THE TIME, VERONICA I COULDN'T LOSE!
ARCHIE, YOU'RE WONDERFUL YOU DESERVE SOMETHING FOR THIS!
BUY WAR BONDS
AND HE'S GONNA GET IT! HEAR THAT? HE COULDN'T LOSE! I KNEW HE WAS THE GUY WHO CHANGED THAT MARKER!
I SHOULDVE BROUGHT THE CRANK HANDLE AFTER ALL WITH OF THIS SMALL
2
3
5